

**The Fire Station Building Committee**  
**A Sub-Committee of the Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes of Meeting of February 8, 2006**

A meeting of the **Fire Station Building Committee** was held on Wednesday, February, 8, 2006, in the Town Hall, Woodbridge, Connecticut.

**Members Present:** Chairman Joe Calistro, Vice Chairman Dwight Rowland, Paul Antinozzi, Louisa Cunningham, Chief Andrew Esposito, Beth Heller, David King, Michael Luther, and Jim Urbano

**Members Absent:** Peter Hershman

**Also Present:** none

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Calistro called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**Minutes:**

Motion (Rowland – Calistro) to accept minutes of February 2, 2006 meeting; approved unanimously, Mr. Luther abstaining (file).

**Public Comments:** none

Mr. Calistro began the meeting by relaying a recent conversation with Ms. Marella. Ms. Marella will not ask the BOS to approve an additional \$5,000 for the development of Scheme E2. Mr. Calistro also presented a letter from Silver-Petrucelli (file) stating a fee of \$5,000 and a requirement for a copyright release letter from Mr. Antinozzi before they will further develop Scheme E2. Mr. Calistro explained Scheme E2 is a modification of Scheme E and changes can be made during the DD phase. Mr. Hershman's email was shared with the committee (file). The project timetable was discussed. Mr. Calistro stated it is important to keep pushing ahead and he is concerned about getting the support from the other boards and commissions. He explained Ms. Marella's request that the committee make a plan and share it with the Land Trust, Conservation Commission, Volunteer Fire Association, and Commission on the Use of Public Properties. The committee decided to make presentations to these groups and added TPZ to those visited.

Mr. Rowland expressed embarrassment for what the committee did to the architect at last meeting. Mr. Rowland feels Mr. Stein was blindsided by an item not on the agenda. He feels the architect has met the requirements for Phase I. Mr. Rowland asked members to give advance notice of items they would like to discuss so people can be prepared. Mr. Calistro added the merits of Mr. Antinozzi's Scheme E can be dealt with in the DD phase and the manner it was handled was not professional. Mr. Urbano stressed no malice was intended and the committee was attending to the business at hand last meeting. He added Mr. Antinozzi had met with Silver-Petrucelli a month prior to last meeting. Mr. Rowland reminded the committee approved the plan on 1/11/06 and now wants to go back. Mr. Urbano understood the process to be fluid and thought there would be opportunities to approve every step of the way so as to have the best of the schemes to present.

Much discussion followed to clarify the issue, to determine Silver-Petrucelli's responsibilities regarding another scheme, to address the merits of Scheme E2 itself, to note problems with Scheme E, on whether the two versions of E are separate schemes or one a modification of the other as well as if 3 viable schemes exist, on if and how to move forward into presentation, and on the \$5.5 million budget. Mr. Antinozzi stated and Ms. Cunningham concurred, it is a big mistake for the committee to go forward with the 3 original schemes and put aside the potential for saving money and for having a superior building solely on the impression of a few members. Ms. Cunningham added losing a month's time is nothing compared to losing a referendum – she wants to see the committee best position itself to win the referendum. It was confirmed a public forum is planned for early March. Ms. Cunningham stated again she is adamantly opposed to using E1. Mr. Urbano asked about attaching E2.

Much discussion followed on the logistics of doing so as well as issues of copyright. Mr. Antinozzi addressed the issue of last week's meeting stating he had tried to avoid this situation by working with the architects on a collegial, often transparent basis to no avail. He added he is not on the committee to let something he sees as substandard get by. Mr. Rowland asked why the approval received a unanimous vote. Mr. Antinozzi responded there was no choice. Discussion followed and Ms. Cunningham noted the need for increased circulation was unable to be met by the architect. She said it appears the group is trying to make Schemes A and D shine. Mr. Urbano explained the costs associated with the schemes noting the separation between them should be greater. The complexity, square footage, and expansion possibility of Scheme A make it significantly more expensive than Scheme E. He sees Scheme E being designed so as not to be an option, backing the committee into A and D. Ms. Cunningham stated she is willing to move forward if the presentation includes E2 as a variation. Much discussion followed on including Scheme E2 including funding schematic drawings, architect approval, Mr. Antinozzi agreeing to the conditions in the Silver-Petrucelli letter (he does), and the impact of all 3 options being dismissed. Mr. Calistro read from Silver-Petrucelli's contract noting if all options are rejected, Silver-Petrucelli will need to make modifications without additional compensation. Discussion continued to clarify if 3 viable options exist. Mr. Antinozzi read from the charge regarding the cost of the project. He stated the 3 schemes prior to D and E never considered the budget of \$5.5 million because Silver-Petrucelli admitted to not knowing what the budget was, therefore A is not a viable option. Square foot price was explained. (Ms. Heller left at 6:30pm). Mr. Calistro suggested compromising – prepare for each commission, include E2 with the package, and if that is the one everyone really favors, going back to Ms. Marella.

Motion (Mr. Esposito – Mr. Urbano) that with Mr. Antinozzi's permission and Silver-Petrucelli's blessing, the committee attaches the site plan and perspective of Mr. Antinozzi's version of Scheme E (Scheme E2) to the packages presented to the 5 boards and committees. The floor plans will be removed from all of the plans. In addition, if the consensus is then to go with Scheme E2, this committee will request additional funds in accordance with the proposal by Silver – Petrucelli. Much discussion took place for clarification and to determine logistics. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Antinozzi will provide written permission.

The committee then worked on the presentation to the BOS and how members will respond to questions regarding Scheme E2 as well as discussed the logistics of scheduling presentations to the 5 commissions. Some of the committee members should attend these sessions.

**Invoices:**

Clerk's Invoice: Motion (Antinozzi – Esposito) to approve payment of the clerk's invoice for summary minutes of the 2/2/06 meeting in the amount of \$150. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, motion (Rowland – Luther) to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Cotton Bogush  
Clerk

Attachments on file:

1. approved minutes 2/2/06
2. S/P letter
3. email from Mr. Hershman
4. email from Don Smith